. AND IMP[illegible] WORK

1921-22

SUGGESTED PLAN FOR ORGANIZATION OF THE NATIONAL BOARD

I. Name

The name of this Board shall be the National Board of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

II. Purpose

The purpose of this Board shall be the Christianization of America.

III. Function

For the carrying out of this purpose, it shall be the function of this Board, in cooperation with other Christian bodies, to assure to every community in America (i.e., continental United States, Alaska and the West Indies) the Gospel of Christ in all of its fulness and the service of Christ in all of its implications, by establishing and strengthening local churches, by evangelism, education and service and by such other means as may be necessary and as are not otherwise provided for.

IV. Membership

(1) The Board shall consist of approximately seventy-six members, elected by the General Assembly for terms of three years and divided into three classes, the terms of one class expiring each year. This membership shall be distributed as follows:

(a) There shall be four members (two of whom shall be women) from each of eight recognized regions as hereinafter described (see appendix.)

(b) There shall be four additional members (one of whom shall be a woman) for each 100,000 Presbyterian Church members or major fraction thereof above the first 100,000 within any region (this numerical basis to be reviewed from time to time by the General Assembly in order to keep the membership of the Board at approximately the number stated.)

(2) The members of the Board from each region shall be selected so as to be as widely representative as possible of the interests of the church within that region.

(3) Thirty members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

V. Duties

It shall be the duty of this Board to -

(a) Effect its own organization, elect officers and select the necessary staff for the prosecution of its work.

(b) Survey the needs of America within the scope of its function and prepare a national program of work on the basis of such needs and opportunities as may be disclosed.

(c) Assemble a national budget for the prosecution of this program.

(d) Distribute the budget according to the needs of the work.

(e) Provide adequate physical equipment for the conduct of work.

(f) Undertake whatever further may be necessary for the unifying and carrying forward of the work of the church in the home land.

VI. Meetings

(1) The Board shall have one stated meeting each year at which time it shall

(a) Determine the general policies of work

(b) Appropriate a budget for the year's work

(c) Elect its officers and the members of its executive staff

(d) Appoint its standing committees.

(2) Additional meetings shall be called by the President at the request of the Executive Committee of the Board (Sec. VII.) the Executive Council (Sec. VIII.) or twenty-five members of the Board.

VII. Executive Committee

(1) The Board shall appoint from its own membership an executive committee of twenty-five to which the Board shall have the power to commit such of its own powers as it shall decide.

(2) The Executive Committee shall hold regular meetings (except during May, July, August and October) and may hold special meetings at the call of the President or of the Executive Council.

VIII. Executive Council and Staff

(1) The general work of the Board shall be entrusted to a General Secretary and such Secretaries and Directors as may be necessary and a Treasurer. These executives shall constitute the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL of the Board and shall meet under the Presidency of the General Secretary, to formulate policies to be recommended to the Board, to determine under whose supervision they shall be executed and to consider the general work of the Board.

(2) Prior to the annual meeting of the Board, the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL shall hold an extended meeting for the review of the general work of the Board and to formulate a recommendation to the Board concerning the budget and its distribution. For the purposes of this meeting the membership of the Executive Council shall be enlarged to provide adequate representation for all Synods and Presbyteries.

IX. Organization of the Board's Work with reference to the Field

In the organization of its work with reference to the field, the Board shall effect such administration arrangements as will

(a) Provide for meeting the basic needs of the community as the primary consideration.

(b) Create a unified program for each Presbytery and Synod or area

(c) Relate the various specialized service-interests of the Board to each other and to the Board and to the Presbyteries and Synods so as to present a unified approach to the problems of the field.

(d) Promote a certain uniformity of method and conduct in the administration of the work throughout the church.

X. Regional Organization

In each region the members of the Board resident within it, the Synodical and Presbyterial executives in the same area, together with such representatives of the Board as are assigned to the region shall constitute a Regional Council to co-operate with the Board in its promotional and service policies, or in such ways as may be requested by the Board.

XI. Relation to Synods and Presbyteries

(1) The national program and budget provided for under V. shall make provision for all work to be carried on within the bounds of each Presbytery and Synod.

(2) There shall be Synodical or Presbyterial executives as required for the superintendence and oversight of the work on the field. These executives shall be jointly selected and approved by the Board and the Synod or Presbytery concerned, and shall be paid from the National treasury.

(3) The administration of work shall be such as to be consistent with the rights of the Synods and Presbyteries as defined by the General Assembly.

A P P E N D I X

Regions

(1) Colonial - Synods of New England, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Baltimore, New York and Vermont (Welsh), Pennsylvania (Welsh), the West Indies.

(2) Middle West - Synods of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, West German, Ohio and W. Pennsylvania (Welsh), Wisconsin (Welsh).

(3) North Central - Synods of Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Minnesota (Welsh).

(4) South Central - Synods of Missouri, Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Western (Welsh).

(5) South - Synods of Tennessee, Kentucky, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, West Virginia, Atlantic, Canadian, Catawba, E. Tennessee.

(6) Southwest - Synods of California, Arizona, New Mexico.

(7) Northwest - Synods of Oregon, Washington (including Alaska).

(8) Rocky Mountain - Synods of Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, Idaho.

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Distribution of Members of the Board on the Principle of four for each Region and one additional Member for each 100,000 Member or Major Fraction thereof in excess of the first 100,000 Members in any Region:

	Membership	No. Members of Board
(1) Colonial	732,224	28
(2) Middle West	467,405	20
(3) North Central	65,067	4
(4) South Central	186,372	8
(5) South	79,692	4
(6) Southwest	74,766	4
(7) Northwest	51,720	4
(8) Rocky Mountain	35,312	4
	Total -	76

G E N E R A L C O U N C I L

1. There shall be a General Council consisting of two representatives from each of the four participating Boards, appointed by the respective Boards, and an equal number from the Church at large elected to serve in classes by the General Assembly, two of such members at large to be the Moderator and the retiring Moderator of the Assembly.

2. The Council shall be financed by the Boards on the basis of their receipts from living sources.. Its budget of expenses shall be presented annually to the General Assembly for approval.

3. The Council shall have no administrative or ecclesiastical functions.

4. The Council shall elect its own officers and create its own organization for the prosecution of its work.

5. DUTIES

(a) The Council shall agree upon a joint budget for the cooperating agencies for recommendation to the Executive Commission.

(b) The Council shall coordinate and lead the financial promotion and missionary educational efforts of the Boards, including stewardship. The creation of educational material shall remain with the Boards.

(c) The Council shall maintain a central treasury for the receipt of funds for the Boards and for its own expenses.

(d) With respect to the distribution of funds secured under the Budget as approved by General Assembly, provision shall be made by the Council to preserve the ratios of the Boards participating in the Budget.

(e) The Council shall take such other measures and devise and maintain, in cooperation with the Synods and Presbyteries, such other mechanism as may be required to assure on the field a thoroughly coordinated program for the entire work of the Church.